*A.*—(*a*) The hon. Member presumably refers to the rule that rural shops must not be located without the special permission of the Collector within a furlong of a metalled road and that the minimum distance between shops on a road side in rural areas should ordinarily be five miles.

(*b*) *to* (*f*) The Government have no information. A report has been called for.

Mr. P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu :—" The answer says that the minimum distance between shops on a road side in rural areas should ordinarily be five miles. What is the distance the Government consider necessary in extraordinary cases like this, Sir ? "

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—" No extraordinary cases have so far arisen to my knowledge. It is that these should be located at distances of 5 miles from each other. If it is less than that, the matter will have to be examined. With reference to clauses (*b*) to (*f*) I have already stated that the Government have no information and that a report has been called for. If that information is received, we will examine the question in the light of that."

## Medical

*Amendment of the rules for the admission and training of L.M.P. candidates.*

* 389 Q.—Mr. A. B. Shetty : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether rule 33 (*c*) of the rules for admission and training of pupils for the Diploma of Licensed Medical Practitioner was amended last year ;

(*b*) whether the amendment gives full discretion to the Board of Examiners to remand any candidate, even though he has obtained the required number of marks in the Board Examination, if after a scrutiny of the results of class examination they consider such a course necessary ;

(*c*) whether this new rule was given effect to in the last April examination ;

(*d*) if so, how many candidates who got the required percentage of marks in that examination were remanded as the result of this new rule ;

(*e*) whether the President of the Board of Examiners protested against the unfairness of this new amendment at the time it was made ; and

(*f*) whether the Government propose to withdraw the new amendment or at least to modify it so as to give power to the Board to pass or fail students on the basis of their school record ?

*A.*—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) Fifteen candidates ; eleven in the first year class, one in the second year, two in the third year and one in the final year.

(*e*) Yes.

(*f*) The matter is under the consideration of the Government.

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Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" May I know what led the Government to make the amendment referred to in clause (*a*) ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" They thought it would be better in the interests of medical education."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" May I know whether such a discretion is given to the Board of Examiners with regard to any other public or University examination ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" I am not aware of any such discretion in other cases."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" May I know on what grounds the President of the Board of Examiners protested against the unfairness of this new arrangement ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" On the ground that it works hardship on the students."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" May I know where is the necessity for a Board if the students show better work in the classes ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Generally it is considered better that the two should be taken together."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" May I know whether the examiners that constitute the Board are the same that examine them in the classes ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Not all of them, I think."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Sir, if all of them are teachers, where is the advantage of this Board Examination over the class examination ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" The hon. Member may be aware that there is a system called moderation in regard to S.S.L.C. examination. For instance, if a student fails in the Board examination, his class examination will be taken into account and *vice versa*. Even if they fail in the Board examination, owing to sickness or other causes, the class marks may help them."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" May I know what is the advantage of these Board examinations ? Is it to take money from the students and pay it to the examiners ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" That may be one of the advantages, which the hon. Member recognizes. The advantage of having the Board examination is they take the results of two examinations into account. Even if the student fails in the Board examination, if he has done satisfactorily in the class, the examiners may give credit to it."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Is the hon. Minister aware that those who have failed in the Board examination are not given credit for their good work in the class; on the other hand, if they pass in the Board examination, bad work in the class is taken into account against them ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" In that particular instance, the Board of Examiners and the Surgeon-General thought that cramming at the last stage was not a satisfactary feature."